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Message Text

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44
ORIGIN INR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 ISO-00 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01

PM-03 DODE-00 /035 R

DRAFTED BY 10/8/74 EXT 22086
APPROVED BY INR/OD:MPACKMAN
INR/OD:WGHYLAND
EUR/SOV:BMZOOK
PM/DCA:EMIFFT
ACDA:JPTIMBIE (DRAFT)
---------- 040346
R 081516Z OCT 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221266

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PARM, UR, US
SUBJECT: STRATEGIC TERMINOLOGY

REF: MOSCOW 15041

1. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE FULLY COORDINATED DEFINITIONS OF THROW WEIGHT, PAYLOAD AND YIELD ON SHORT NOTICE. MOREOVER, IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE THAT US STRATEGIC WRITERS ARE NOT ENTIRELY CONSISTENT IN THEIR USE OF SUCH TERMS, AND THAT THE DEFINITIONS PROVIDED MAY NOT BE THE SAME AS USED BY SOME WRITERS.

2. THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS ARE DERIVED FROM A LEXICON OF SALT-RELATED WORDS AND PHRASES BEING PREPARED BY ACDA IN CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND DEFENSE. THE LEXICON IS IN REVIEW AND IS NOT YET APPROVED FOR GENERAL USE.

3. THE DEMONSTRATED THROW WEIGHT OF A BALLISTIC MISSILE IS THE MAXIMUM USEFUL WEIGHT WHICH HAS BEEN FLIGHT TESTED TO OPERATIONAL RANGES ON THE BOOST STAGES OF THE MISSILE.
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THE USEFUL WEIGHT INCLUDES THE WEIGHT OF THE REENTRY

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VEHICLES, PENETRATION AIDS, DISPENSING AND RELEASE MECHA-
NISMS, REENTRY SHROUDS, COVERS, BUSES AND PROPULSION
DEVICES WITH THEIR PROPELLANTS (BUT NOT THE FINAL BOOST
STAGES) WHICH ARE PRESENT AT THE END OF THE BOOST PHASE.

4. THE PAYLOAD OF A BALLISTIC MISSILE CONSISTS OF THE
REENTRY VEHICLES PLACED ON BALLISTIC TRAJECTORIES BY THE
MAIN PROPULSION STAGES AND BUS. THERE ARE SEVERAL
GENERAL TYPES OF PAYLOAD CONFIGURATIONS, SUCH AS SINGLE
REENTRY VEHICLE, MULTIPLEREENTRY VEHICLE (MRV), AND
MULTIPLE INDEPENDENTLY-TARGETABLE REENTRY VEHICLE (MIRV).

5. NUCLEAR YIELD IS THE ENERGY RELEASED IN THE DETONATION
OF A NUCLEAR WEAPON, MEASURED IN TERMS OF THE AMOUNT OF
TNT REQUIRED TO RELEASE THE SAME AMOUNT OF ENERGY. IT
IS GENERALLY EXPRESSED IN KILOTONS (THOUSANDS OF TONS OF
TNT) OR MEGATONS (MILLIONS OF TONS OF TNT).

6. SINCE SUCH DEFINITIONS AS THESE MAY HAVE IMPLICATIONS
FOR ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS IN SALT, THEY SHOULD BE EXPLAINED
TO THE SOVIETS BY ONE OF THE EMBASSY PARTICIPANTS IN THE
SYMPOSIUM RATHER THAN BY PROFESSOR SHULMAN. KISSINGER

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